



CITY OF DETROIT  
DEMOLITION DEPARTMENT

1301 THIRD AVENUE  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226  
PHONE 313 • 224.4737

**TO:** Council President Brenda Jones  
**FROM:** LaJuan Counts, Director  
Demolition Department  
**DATE:** November 13, 2020  
**RE:** Double Equipment Requirements

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In response to the email dated for November 10, 2020. Please note the following:

1. What equipment is required for a business to prequalify for demolition contracts?

***For the first two crews, each crew is required to have one each of the following: Excavator, Dozer and Skidsteer. For additional crews after two, there must be at least one additional Excavator, Dozer and Skidsteer for every two crew.***

2. Is all of the required equipment necessary to perform demolition activities?

***Yes***

3. Please explain the department's decision to double equipment requirements for demolition contract and what policies are in place to ensure maximum opportunities and access for micro and minority owned Detroit businesses?

***The doubling statement is not accurate. Each crew is only required to have minimum equipment for the execution of one group of demolitions. Three pieces of equipment for a demo package of 120 or 60 properties is what's required. The past demolition program only requested equipment list from contractors and did not assess the crew or equipment capacities of each contractors. There was also no certification or verification that the equipment actually existed or operated. This was a definite shortfall of the past program and has led to problems during contracts. In recent months, the Demolition Department has experienced contractors with significant contract work and inadequate equipment possession or access to complete the work. There is also a current case of one contractor using another contractor's equipment for all of its current contract work and both contractors are progressing slowly on their contract work. The task of ensuring that contractors have adequate equipment is actually a protection for all involved. By allowing companies to knowingly overextend themselves and ultimately face discipline and penalties due to poor or lack of performance is irresponsible on the part of the City and setting contractors up for failure. While the City is making every effort to provide opportunities for small, micro and Detroit-based businesses, we must also make every effort to ensure contractors are able to successful execute the work and the success of the program, and pre-qualifying equipment capacity is the first step.***



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4. Please explain how businesses are being notified of the updated equipment policies and what the department is doing to work with companies who do not meet the requirements?

***The pre-qualification requirements (including the crew and equipment requirements) were outlined in detail in the RFQQ 18834,1 published on 10/5/20 and due on 10/23/20 provided by OCP***

If you have any additional or follow-up questions, please contact the Demolition Department through the established protocol.

cc: Honorable City Council  
Avery Peoples– Legislative Liaisons